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17-2003

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64412

Shinji EBATA

Appln. No.: 09/851,248

Group Art Unit: 3662

Confirmation No.: 2998

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: May 9, 2001

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING A TRANSPORTATION SERVICE**

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. JP-A 8-293096, published November 5, 1996.
2. JP-A 9-145386, published June 6, 1997.
3. JP-A 11-351902, published December 24, 1999.
4. JP-A 2000-132798, published May 12, 2000.
5. JP-A 8-161696, published June 21, 1996.
6. JP-A 9-89577, published April 4, 1997.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

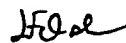
EBATA
Appln. No. 09/851,248
Information Disclosure Statement

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Japanese Office Action dated March 4, 2003 with an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cite such documents and indicate the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: June 19, 2003

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/851,248
				Confirmation Number	2998
				Filing Date	May 9, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Shinji EBATA
				Art Unit	3662
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q64412

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	8-293096	A	11-05-1996		No
		JP	9-145386	A	06-06-1997		No
		JP	11-351902	A	12-24-1999		No
		JP	2000-132798	A	05-12-2000		No
		JP	8-161696	A	06-21-1996		No
		JP	9-89577	A	04-04-1997		No

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.